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Promyshlennost' Stroitel'nykh Materialov

NEW TASKS FACING UKRAINIAN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS INDUSTRY

According to V. Grigor'yev, Minister of Construction Materials Industry Ukrainian SSR, 1951 output of construction materials was 24 percent above 1950 output. During the first 8 months of 1952, output was 23 percent above the same period in 1951. The industry has mastered production of new materials not produced before the war. These include hollow structural ceramics, artistic architectural ceramics, highly durable wall materials, and granite facing slabs.

The Ukrainian construction materials industry is now faced with new tasks. The objective of the Fifth Five-Year Plan is to expand wall material production 2.3 times. This includes an increase of 2.1 times in common brick production, 8.7 times in silicate brick production, and 2.8 times in brick substitutes pro-

During the new plan, 25 construction materials plants will be erected or reconstructed and 30 brick and tile plants will be converted to year-round operations. To meet the demand where it is greatest, the construction materials industry expects to expand production in Dnepropetrovskaya, Zaporozhskaya, Khar'kovskaya, Stanislavskaya, Nikolayevskaya, and Khersonskaya oblasts.

A very large part of the brick produced by the end of Fourth Five-Year Plan came from seasonal brick plants. Besides the erection of new, completely mechanized plants, measures will be taken under the new plan to mechanize productive operations in the seasonal plants.

The first tunnel kilns in the Ukrainian brick industry were put into operation in 1952 at the Korchevatka Brick Plant No 11 in Kiev. During the first month's operation, actual output from the kiln exceeded designed capacity. In October 1952, a tunnel kiln, which will work on hard coal, was in process of completion at the Petrovskiy Brick Plant in Kiev. By the end of the Five-Year Plan, the Ukrainian brick industry expects to put into operation 21 tunnel kilns.

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Scientists from the Ukrainian Central Scientific Research Institute for Construction Materials and plant production workers have been conducting successful experiments to fire brick in tunnel kilns without any preliminary drying. Regulation and control of the firing process are expected to be made automatic. Seven automatic control installations are to be erected by the end of 1955.

The Ukrainian SSR is now producing only a small quantity of silicate wall materials. The new Five-Year Plan provides for construction of six silicate brick plants having an annual over-all capacity of 360 million bricks. By using made from concrete and reinforced concrete, and various other building materials from local raw materials.

Although rich deposits of granite, marble, and feldspar stone are found in Dnepropetrovskaya, Nikolayevskaya, Zhitmomirskaya, and Zakarpatskaya oblasts, these stones are extracted and processed only in limited amounts, primarily because of poor mechanization.

The production of structural ceramics has been delayed somewhat because of the inactivity of the planning organizations. According to data of the Administration on Architectural Works of the Council of Ministers Ukrainian SSR, 178 housing and civil construction plans providing for an over-all volume of 1.9 million cubic meters of construction were investigated and recommended for approval in the first 6 mo... the of 1952. However, provision for building perforated brick walls was made in only three of the plans, constituting an over-all volume of 67,200 cubic meters.

Until now \(\sum_{1952} \), only two Kiev plants have been producing structural and architectural ceramics. In such Ukrainian industrial centers as Zaporozh'ye, Dnepropetrovsk, Stalino, Kherson, and others where large-scale construction is taking place, builders are unable to get facing materials and are forced to use costly, but short-lived, cement finishes. For this reason, the Ministry of Construction Materials Industry Ukrainian SSR feels that provisions should be made in the new plan to produce architectural and structural ceramic products and wall materials in the large industrial centers of the Donets Basin and along the Dnepr River.

Because of the great demand for these products, the construction materials industry will soon have to start producing ceramic and glass sewer pipes, water pipes with a pressure up to 10 atmospheres, filtering pipes for irrigation systems, and various types of glass pipes to meet special demands and the normal demands of the villages in the republic.

The republic is now faced with the problem of producing heat insulating products made from local raw materials that do not require complicated water-proof and steamproof devices to aid in setting. Tests of the Ukrainian Central Scientific Research Institute for Construction Materials have shown that production of heat insulating products from local clays is quite possible.

During 1950 · 1951, the republic's construction materials industry received more than 5,000 units of equipment. In 1952, the industry will get an additional 4,200 units, and in 1953 it is expected that it will receive an even greater amount.

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